

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 207385

17 16

ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 IO-14 OIC-04

AEC-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-10 SS-20 /148 R

DRAFTED BY D/MBFR:RBARAZ

APPROVED BY 10/17/73 EXT. 28253

PM:VBAKER

OSD:COL.MICHAEL

JCS:COL.LAFFERTY

NSC:MPOWER

EUR/RM - MR. STREATOR

S/S

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

----- 018480

O 190334Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 207385

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: MODIFIED DATA ON MANNING LEVELS

1. SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS SOME MODIFICATIONS IN OUR DATA ON WARSAW PACT GROUND-FORCE MANPOWER IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA. USNATO SHOULD CIRCULATE THIS INFORMATION TO THE ALLIES IN THE FORM OF THE MEMORANDUM QUOTED BELOW, WHICH MAY ALSO BE CIRCULATED IN THE AD HOC GROUP AFTER

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 207385

DISTRIBUTION IN BRUSSELS. THE MEMORANDUM SHOULD BE

CIRCULATED SHORTLY AFTER THE FIVE-PART ALLIANCE NEGOTIATING POSITION HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE NAC, AND AT A LEVEL TO BE DETERMINED AT YOUR DISCRETION. WE WISH THE IMPACT OF THESE NEW FIGURES TO BE AS LOW KEY AND ROUTINE AS POSSIBLE, AND NOT TO RAISE ALLIED CONCERNS ABOUT THE COMMON CEILING AND RELATED ISSUES.

2. FOR BONN AND LONDON. THE TEXT OF THE MEMORANDUM SHOULD ALSO BE PASSED TO FONOFFS IN SUITABLY LOW KEY WAY. IF ASKED WHEN PASSING THE MEMORANDUM BELOW, YOU MAY REPLY THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT NEW MANNING DATA CALLS FOR ANY CHANGE IN EITHER PHASE 1 REDUCTION PROPOSAL OR THE APPROXIMATELY 700,000 MAN COMMON CEILING. WE APPRECIATE THAT NEW DATA WOULD TEND TO HAVE THE EFFECT OF APPEARING TO INCREASE THE ASYMMETRY OF PHASE TWO REDUCTIONS. IF POINT ARISES, HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT IN THE NATURE OF THINGS DATA WILL HAVE TO BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER REFINEMENT ON THE BASIS OF ADDITIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND DISCUSSION WITH THE EAST DURING PHASE 1. RUTH WILL PROBABLY NOTE THAT BULK OF THESE INCREASES IS IN HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE SUPPORT WHICH IS THE TYPE OF FORCE MOST DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE.

3. FOR USNATO. COVER NOTE SHOULD DESCRIBE THE MEMORANDUM AS CONTAINING THE RESULTS OF THE FOLLOW-UP STUDY ON SOVIET AND OTHER PACT FORCES IN NGA WHICH WE PROMISED TO PRESENT AS SOON AS THE WORK HAD BEEN COMPLETED. THAT WORK COMPLETES THE MAJOR REVIEW OF WARSAW PACT FORCES UNDERTAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH THE FORMULATION OF US PROPOSALS FOR THE ALLIED POSITION. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT MANNING FIGURES ARE NECESSARILY SUBJECT TO UNCERTAINTIES AND THAT AMENDMENT MAY BE NECESSARY IN THE FUTURE, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO HAVE ALLIED COUNTRIES ALL USE A SINGLE SET OF NUMBERS IN DISCUSSION WITH EAST AND, WHEN APPROPRIATE, IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS PRESENTATIONS. THIS WOULD ENHANCE OUR PROSPECTS FOR BRINGING THE EAST EITHER TO WORK ON BASIS OF NATO FIGURES OR TO GIVE US INFORMATION WHICH CAN BE CORROBORATED ABOUT THE ACTUAL SIZE OF THEIR FORCES. FYI: WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY CHANGE IN THE DESIGN OF PHASE 1 AND 2 PROPOSALS IS WARRANTED BY THESE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 207385

LIMITED CHANGES IN DATA. IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND THAT, EVEN WITH THE CORRECTIONS WE HAVE MADE, THE NUMBERS FOR MANPOWER IN PACT FORCES ARE STILL SUBJECT TO UNCERTAINTIES. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE IN ALLIES' INTEREST TO AGREE TO USE THESE SOMEWHAT HIGHER FIGURES CONSISTENTLY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. YOU MAY DRAW ON THIS AS NECESSARY. END FYI.

4. THE TEXT OF THE MEMORANDUM ON OUR NEW DATA FOLLOWS:
BEGIN TEXT:

SUBJECT: MANPOWER OF WARSAW PACT GROUND FORCES IN THE NATO
GUIDELINES AREA

1. ON JULY 27, 1973, WE REPORTED TO THE NORTH
ATLANTIC COUNCIL THE INTERIM RESULTS OF AN ONGOING US
RENALYSIS OF WARSAW PACT GROUND FORCES MANPOWER IN THE
NATO GUIDELINES AREA. THIS RENALYSIS WAS UNDERTAKEN TO
INSURE THAT THE DATA BASE FOR MBFR PLANNING AND NEGOTIAT-
ION WOULD BE AS ACCURATE AS POSSIBLE. AT THAT TIME, WE
NOTED THAT FURTHER CHANGES MIGHT WELL RESULT AS WE PURSUED
OUR STUDIES.

2. WE HAVE NOW COMPLETED THIS RENALYSIS OF BOTH
SOVIET AND INDIGENOUS PACT GROUND FORCES IN THE NGA AND
HAVE FURTHER REFINED OUR ESTIMATES. WE NOW ESTIMATE THE
TOTAL PACT GROUND STRENGTH AT 925,000, INCLUDING 460,000
SOVIET AND 465,000
INDIGENOUS. THE RESULTS OF THE RENALYSIS ARE SUMMARIZED
BELOW.

3. OUR CURRENT ESTIMATE OF WARSAW PACT GROUND FORCES
IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA FOLLOWS: (IN THOUSANDS)

A. SOVIET GROUND FORCES

1. GSFG IN EAST GERMANY 360
2. CGF IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA 70
3. NGF IN POLAND 30

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 207385

4. TOTAL SOVIET 460

B. EAST EUROPEAN GROUND FORCES

1. EAST GERMAN 100
2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA 155
3. POLISH 210
4. TOTAL EAST EUROPEAN 465

C. TOTAL NATO GUIDELINES AREA 925

4. RESULTS OF THE NATO TOE/ORDER OF BATTLE CONFERENCE

SOVIET GROUND FORCES STRENGTH DATA BASED ON THE
UNOFFICIAL RESULTS OF NATO TOE/ORDER OF BATTLE CONFERENCE
(MC 224) CONDUCTED DURING PERIOD 27 SEPTEMBER - 5 OCTOBER
1973 ARE SUMMARIZED BELOW:

AREA	ROUNDED
GSFG	351,000
NGF	31,500
CGF	70,500 - ,0,000
TOTAL	453,000 - 462,500

THE SPREAD IN CGF REFLECTS THE DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN
NATO MEMBERS CONCERNING THE PRESENCE OF A SIXTH
SOVIET DIVISION (A TANK DIVISION) IN CZECH. THIS IS
PRESENTED IN MC-161 AS A HOLDING OF 5-6 SOVIET

DIVISIONS IN CZECH. US ESTIMATES ARE BASED ON 5
DIVISIONS.

5. YOU WILL NOTE THAT THE US ESTIMATES CONTAINED IN
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 05 STATE 207385

PARA 3 FOR NGF AND FOR CGF (EXCLUDING THE TANK DIVISION)
AGREE SUBSTANTIALLY WITH THE RESULTS OF THE NATO TOE/ORDER
OF BATTLE CONFERENCE. THE DIFFERENCE IN THE GSFG TOTALS IS
ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE RESULTS OF OUR RECENT RENALYSIS.
SUBSEQUENT TO THE OB CONFERENCE, THE US HAS CONCLUDED THAT
SOME ADDITIONS, PARTICULARLY WITHIN THE AREA OF GSFG FRONT
REAR SERVICES, SHOULD BE MADE TO THE TOTAL SOVIET STRENGTH
ESTIMATE. IF THESE NEW FINDINGS WERE ADDED TO THE
CONFERENCE FIGURE, THE US AND ALLIED HOLDINGS WOULD BE
CONSISTENT.

6. BASIS FOR CHANGES

AS WAS THE CASE WITH THE SOVIET MANPOWER REVISION
REPORTED TO THE COUNCIL IN JULY, THESE ADDITIONAL CHANGES
IN OUR ESTIMATES DO NOT INDICATE ANY UNUSUAL CURRENT
DEVELOPMENTS IN PACT FORCES. THEY ARE MAINLY THE RESULT
OF IMPROVED EVIDENCE AND REANALYSIS WHICH HAVE ENABLED US
TO MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBE DEVELOPMENTS IN THOSE FORCES
THAT HAVE BEEN UNDERWAY, BUT COULD NOT PREVIOUSLY BE
FULLY ASSESSED. ALSO, THEY HAVE ENABLED US TO IDENTIFY
FORCE ELEMENTS THAT PROBABLY HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PART OF THE

PACT FORCES IN THE NGA BUT COULD NOT PREVIOUSLY BE IDENTIFIED AS SEPARATE UNITS. THE CHANGES ARE DESCRIBED BELOW IN FURTHER DETAIL.

A. GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES GERMANY (GSFG)

THE MANPOWER ESTIMATE FOR SOVIET FORCES IN THE GSFG HAS BEEN INCREASED TO SOME 360,000. OUR DETAILED JULY ORDER OF BATTLE FIGURE WAS 354,000--ROUNDED TO 350,000. WE HAVE MADE THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTMENTS SINCE JULY:

(I) REANALYSIS OF FUNCTIONS OF FRONT AND ARMY LEVEL REAR SERVICES RESULTING FROM UPDATED TABLES OF ORGANIZATION RESULT: PLUS 2,000 MEN.

(II) AN INCREASE IN SCUD TACTICAL MISSILE LAUNCHERS FROM 9 TO 12 PER BRIGADE IN 5 BRIGADES AT 200 MEN PER BRIGADE: PLUS 1,000 MEN.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 06 STATE 207385

(III) IDENTIFICATION OF THREE SA-6 SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE REGIMENTS AT 700 MEN PER REGIMENT: PLUS 2,000 MEN.

THE NET EFFECT OF THESE CHANGES IS TO RAISE THE 354,000 MAN FIGURE TO 359,000 MEN OR A
E E E E E E

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE207385
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RBARAZ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS BAKER
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731021/aaaaapbu.tel
Line Count: 249
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 08 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <21-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: MODIFIED DATA ON MANNING LEVELS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: BONN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005